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Office of the Attorney General

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March 23, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR The Secretary of State  
The Secretary of the Treasury  
The Secretary of Defense  
The Director of Central Intelligence  
The Director, Special Action Office  
for Drug Abuse Prevention

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NARCOTICS INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM

Attached is a paper setting forth the concept of a National Narcotics Intelligence System. This concept has been developed by the Office of National Narcotics Intelligence (ONNI) in accordance with the provisions of Executive Order 11676 of July 27, 1972, assigning to the Director of ONNI responsibility for establishing and maintaining such a System.

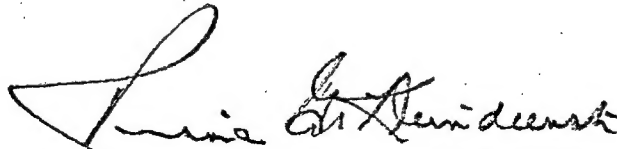
As reflected in the attachment, the national System is a joint venture on the part of Government departments and agencies which are major producers and users of national narcotics intelligence and related information. The principal function of the System is to meet the narcotics intelligence needs of Government officials concerned with narcotics control policy matters, law enforcement, and drug abuse prevention, treatment, education and rehabilitation. Accordingly, I solicit your cooperation and assistance in an evaluation of this System concept, its modification as required, and its ultimate implementation as an inter-departmental enterprise with coordination supplied by ONNI.

As a first step I would appreciate your designation of a representative or representatives to serve on the National Narcotics Intelligence Coordination Committee (NNICC) described in Part V of the enclosure. Please make known

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your designations to the Chairman, Mr. William C. Sullivan, Director, Office of National Narcotics Intelligence, by April 6, 1973. Promptly thereafter Director Sullivan will schedule a meeting of the Committee to begin consideration of the System concept.

Copies of this memorandum are being provided to the Executive Director, Cabinet Committee on International Narcotics Control; and to the Director, Office of Management and Budget, for their information.



The Attorney General

Attachment

cc: The Director, Office of Management and Budget  
The Executive Director, Cabinet Committee on  
International Narcotics Control, The White House

THE NATIONAL NARCOTICS INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM

Executive Order 11676, of July 27, 1972, assigns to the Director of the Office of National Narcotics Intelligence (ONNI) the responsibility for development and maintenance of a National Narcotics Intelligence System. Elements of the concept of that System are described as follows:

I. INTERDEPARTMENTAL LIAISON

The establishment by ONNI of close and effective liaison with Federal, State and local government departments and agencies is an essential element of the National Narcotics Intelligence System. Within ONNI this responsibility is assigned to the Liaison Division, headed by an Assistant Director and staffed by personnel assigned specifically to liaison duties.

At the Washington Headquarters level, ONNI liaison representatives maintain day-to-day working relationships with designated contacts within twenty-four Federal organizations for purposes of procurement, exchange and dissemination of narcotics intelligence and related information required in support of the national system. Liaison with INTERPOL is carried out through the Treasury Department.

Liaison is being developed by ONNI with State and local government agencies having interests and responsibilities in the narcotics and dangerous drugs problem.

II. NATIONAL NARCOTICS INTELLIGENCE DATA BASE

A key element of the National Narcotics Intelligence System is the National Data Base established and maintained by ONNI with contributions and support from all concerned departments and agencies. The primary function of the Base is to serve as a central repository of selected narcotics intelligence and related information. The data base will

consist of new information and finished studies, including unclassified information as well as classified data requiring protection pursuant to provisions of Federal law, Executive Orders, directives, and departmental regulations.

The data is for use by authorized Federal, State and local officials responsible for (a) restriction of the illegal flow of narcotics into the U.S.; (b) enforcement of the U.S. narcotic and drug laws; and (c) drug abuse prevention, treatment, education and rehabilitation.

Continuing review of the Data Base will provide one means for identifying significant gaps and deficiencies in the basic data available on the narcotics problem.

Storage, retrieval and dissemination of information in the data base are to be facilitated by automatic data processing methods designed to meet the needs of participating departments and agencies, and compatible insofar as possible, with their own automated systems. A watch office will see that all requests are handled expeditiously.

### III. COORDINATION OF INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS PROCESSING

A basic component of the National Narcotics Intelligence System is central coordination of the processing of narcotics intelligence collection requirements. Major features of the coordination procedure are the following:

- Administered by ONNI with assistance and participation of Federal, State and local departments and agencies whose official responsibilities include the collection or utilization of narcotics intelligence data.
- Designed to assist Government departments and agencies in getting coordinated action on their requirements for the collection of narcotics and drugs-related intelligence which (a) is needed in support of

policy formulation, law enforcement, education, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation efforts. (b) cannot be acquired through collection resources of the department or agency seeking the data; and (c) is most likely obtainable from the intelligence holdings or foreign and domestic collection resources of other departments and agencies.

- Is concerned with the processing of (a) day-to-day, short-term requirements which are usually susceptible to one-time reporting by the collector; and (b) standing requirements of a long-term nature which are met through collection efforts over an extended period of time.
- Involves the solicitation and the receipt by ONNI of statements of departments' and agencies' short-term and standing intelligence collection requirements; a determination that the data sought is not already available or in the process of collection; the referral of collection requirements by ONNI to the appropriate collection agency or agencies; ONNI follow-up as necessary; and the submission of reports by collecting agencies to the requesting agencies, and to ONNI for inclusion in a central requirements registry.
- Contemplates the adoption by departments and agencies of standardized or at least compatible formats for stating intelligence collection requirements and for submitting intelligence reports from the field.
- Is not concerned with the coordination of intelligence collection activities of a law enforcement agency utilizing its own investigative resources for purposes of prosecutive action in the courts.

#### IV. COORDINATION OF INTELLIGENCE PRODUCTION

An important function of the National Narcotics Intelligence System is the central coordination of the production and dissemination of studies and reports prepared by U. S. departments and agencies concerned with narcotics.

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A major purpose of this effort is to provide ONNI an effective means for identifying needs for specific narcotics intelligence studies and to prevent duplication in the production of finished intelligence.

The central coordination process includes:

- Solicitation by ONNI from departments and agencies of a listing of currently completed intelligence studies, research and studies under way, and studies planned for the coming year.
- Establishment and maintenance by ONNI, in collaboration with Government departments and agencies involved, of a national registry of all current and planned studies and research.

On the basis of continuing intelligence research and analysis conducted within ONNI, various narcotics intelligence studies will be produced by ONNI, with participation by Federal, State and local agencies as appropriate. Maximum utilization will be made of advanced computer technology in the conduct of research and analyses for intelligence production purposes.

V. NATIONAL NARCOTICS INTELLIGENCE  
COORDINATION COMMITTEE

A National Narcotics Intelligence Coordination Committee (NNICC) is considered necessary to support the Director of ONNI in carrying out his responsibility to create and maintain the National Narcotics Intelligence System called for in Executive Order 11676.

Each basic element of the System, already described, contemplates participation by those U.S. Government departments and agencies which are the principal suppliers and users of narcotics intelligence and information obtained from both overseas and domestic sources. These departments and agencies are to be represented as permanent members of the NNICC under the chairmanship of the ONNI.

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Other Government departments and agencies will be invited to provide representation to the NNICC on an ad hoc basis as appropriate and necessary.

The primary purpose of the NNICC is to provide advice, assistance and information to the Director of ONNI as required in connection with his responsibility pertaining to the National Narcotics Intelligence System.

Subcommittees of the NNICC will be established to facilitate the work of the Committee with respect to such specialized areas as the automation of the national data base, the coordination of intelligence collection requirements processing, the coordination of intelligence production, and requirements for security coordination.